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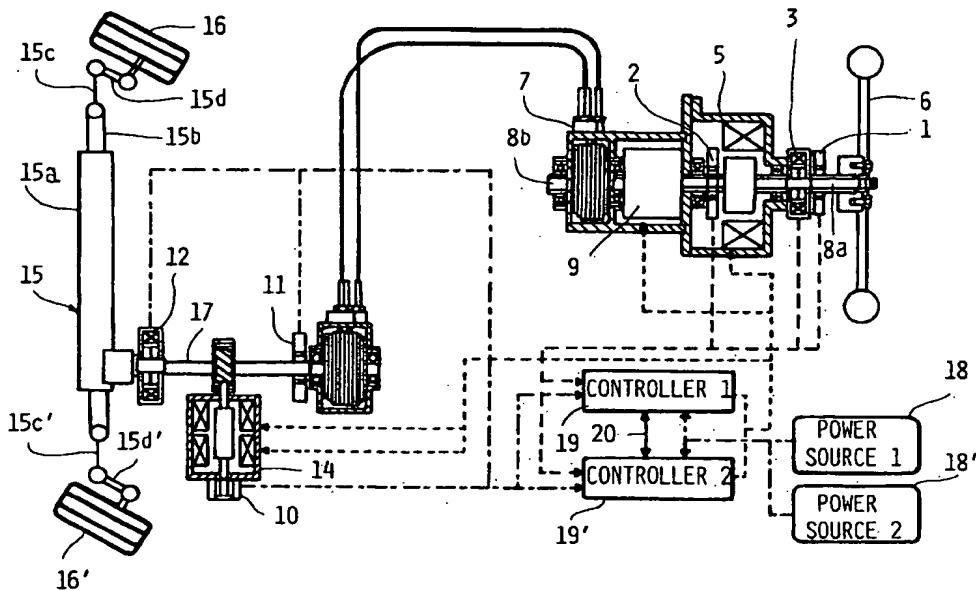
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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))

*[Continued on next page]*

(54) Title: STEERING CONTROL APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: A vehicle steering controller includes a turning unit which is mechanically separated from a steering unit, which receives the steering input, and turns the road wheels corresponding to the steering input. The controller also includes a reaction force motor that applies a steering reaction force corresponding to the turning state of the turning unit to the steering unit, a hands-off detection sensor that detects whether the steering unit is in the hands-off state, and a steering reaction force correction component that reduces the steering reaction force from that in the hands-on state when the hands-off state is detected.

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- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*
- *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))*

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